



SR1054

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Illinois State Senator Annazette Collins was born  
3 and raised in Chicago, where she earned her bachelor's degree  
4 in sociology from Chicago State University; she later earned  
5 her master's degree in criminal justice and furthered her  
6 graduate work in psychology counseling; and

7           WHEREAS, Senator Collins began her professional career in  
8 social work; she has held positions as a corrections officer  
9 with the Cook County Probation Department and as an  
10 Administrator for both the Chicago Public Schools and the  
11 Illinois Department of Children and Family Services; and

12           WHEREAS, Senator Collins was first elected to the Illinois  
13 House of Representatives in 2001, representing the  
14 neighborhoods of the 10th Representative District; and

15           WHEREAS, Senator Collins served on and led numerous  
16 committees during her career in the General Assembly, including  
17 the House Committees on Human Services, Judiciary II - Criminal  
18 Law (Vice-Chairperson), Public Utilities, State Government  
19 Administration, Juvenile Justice Reform (Chairperson),  
20 Elementary and Secondary Education, Commerce and Business  
21 Development, and Appropriations, as well as the Senate  
22 Committees on Education, Environment, Human Services, Licensed

1 Activities, and State Government & Veterans Affairs; and

2 WHEREAS, Senator Collins' desire to become more involved in  
3 helping working families led her to seek office in the State  
4 Senate, where she was appointed to represent Chicago's West  
5 Side from the 5th Legislative District in March of 2011; and

6 WHEREAS, Senator Collins brought to the Senate years of  
7 valuable experience on issues regarding juvenile justice,  
8 enhancing education, youth concerns, social work, quality  
9 health care, and striving to improve the public sector in her  
10 community; and

11 WHEREAS, Senator Collins has been a believer that quality  
12 and equal education should be a right for every child in every  
13 school by supporting measures that increased funding for city  
14 schools and serving as a strong proponent for student access to  
15 safe and disciplined learning environments; and

16 WHEREAS, Senator Collins recognized the importance of  
17 children staying in school and worked to increase both the  
18 school day and school year to maximize learning time for school  
19 children; and

20 WHEREAS, Senator Collins also worked to ensure remedial and  
21 summer school were focused on mathematics and reading, 2 skills

1 vital to becoming a productive part of the workforce; and

2 WHEREAS, Senator Collins has been a champion for juvenile  
3 justice system restructuring and is responsible for raising the  
4 age that an alleged delinquent minor can be put in a detention  
5 facility from 10 to 13; believing that young people deserve to  
6 have a second chance, Senator Collins introduced legislation to  
7 make certain that many of these youth are able to seek  
8 secondary education, enter the workforce, and become  
9 productive, tax-paying citizens by automatically expunging  
10 juvenile records at the age of 18; and

11 WHEREAS, Senator Collins has been recognized as a public  
12 safety advocate for her work to improve funding for the Law  
13 Enforcement Agencies Data System (LEADS), which gives police  
14 officers electronic access to missing and endangered person  
15 reports; and

16 WHEREAS, Senator Collins has been a chief sponsor of  
17 adoption reform, working to place children in family  
18 environments whenever possible and by making efforts to allow  
19 godparents and second cousins to adopt children who are in the  
20 custody of the Department of Children and Family Services; and

21 WHEREAS, Senator Collins received such awards as the  
22 Chicago Area Project Clifford R. Shaw Legislator of the Year

1 Award and the State Interagency Committee on Employees with  
2 Disabilities Legislator for the Year Award for her outstanding  
3 public service; and

4 WHEREAS, The members of the Senate thank Senator Annazette  
5 Collins and extend to her our best wishes for her future  
6 endeavors; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we thank Senator  
9 Annazette Collins for her years of service to the people of  
10 Illinois and honor her with this resolution; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
12 presented to Senator Annazette Collins as a symbol of our  
13 gratitude.